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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hiroyuki SATO et al.

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. 10/575,468

Attorney Docket No. 2006 0517A

Filed April 12, 2006

PROCESS FOR PRODUCING
ALIPHATIC POLYESTER
[Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/015557
Filed October 14, 2004]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is a copy of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroyuki SATO et al.

Ву

Registration No. 25,154 Attorney for Applicants

MJ/aas Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 January 19, 2007



From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)

(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

ENDO, Yukio Tokyo International Patent Firm 2nd Floor, Miyata Building 17-16, Nishi-Shimbashi 1-chome Minato-ku Tokyo 105-0003 JAPON



Date of mailing (day/month/year) 31 August 2006 (31.08.2006)	OF CEIVED
Applicant's or agent's file reference KFE0097WOJ	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/JP2004/015557	International filing date (day/month/year) 14 October 2004 (14.10.2004)
Applicant KI	JREHA CORPORATION et al

1.	Transmi	ttal of the translation to the applicant.				
	~	The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).				
		The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).				
2.	Transmi	ttal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.				
	The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:					
	Non	e				
		wing designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that n from the International Bureau only upon their request:				
	EC,	AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW				
3.	Reminde	r regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).				
	The engli	ison is reminded that judges a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation				

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Masashi Honda

Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70

Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70 Form PCT/IB/338 (January 2004)



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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

See item 4 below

Priority date (day/month/year) 15 October 2003 (15.10.2003)

FOR FURTHER ACTION

International filing date (day/month/year)

14 October 2004 (14.10.2004)

International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated)



Applicant						
KÜREHA CORPORATION						
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This international prelimina. International Searching Auti	ry report on patentability (Chapte hority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).	r Γ) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the				
2. This REPORT consists of a	total of 4 sheets, including this co	over sheet.				
In the attached sheets, any reto the international prelimination	In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.					
3. This report contains indicati	ons relating to the following item	s:				
Box No. I	Basis of the report					
Box No. Π	Priority					
Box No. III	Non-establishment of opin applicability	pinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial				
Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention					
Box No. V	Reasoned statement under applicability; citations and	Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial explanations supporting such statement				
Box No. VI	Certain documents cited					
Box No. VII	Certain defects in the inter	national application				
Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application						
4. The International Bureau wi not, except where the applicadate (Rule 44bis .2).	ll communicate this report to desi ant makes an express request unde	gnated Offices in accordance with Rules 44 <i>bis</i> .3(c) and 93 <i>bis</i> .1 but er Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority				
		Date of issuance of this report 22 August 2006 (22.08.2006)				
The International E		Authorized officer				
34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland		Masashi Honda				
esimile No. +41 22 338 82 70		e-mail: pt08@wipo.int				

Applicant's or agent's file reference

See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/015557

KFE0097WOJ

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

To:		S		
		PCT PCT		
	W INTERNAT	RITTEN OPINION OF THE TONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY		
		(PCT Rule 43bis.1)		
Applicant's or agent's file reference	Date of mailing (day/month/year)	22.11.2004		
KFE0097WOJ	FOR FURTHER	ACTION		
	1	See paragraph 2 below		
PCT/JP2004/015557 International filing de 14.10.200 International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification	4	Priority date (day/month/year) 15.10.2003		
pplicant				
KUREHA CORPORATION				
CONTORATION				
1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following iter	ns:			
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Box No. I Basis of the opinion				
Box No. II Basis of the opinion Box No. II Priority				
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/015557

With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this rem. This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)). With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of: a type of material asseption to be sequence listing tablets) related to the sequence listing tablets related to the sequence listing in written format of material in computer readable form. [In confidence with the international application as filed.] [In it is of filing/formshing] [In confidence with the international application in computer readable form.] [In readablism, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(a) relating thereto has been filed or dress and go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished. Additional comments:	Box No. 1	Basis of this opinion	1 01/01/2004/01555/
This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)). With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of: 1. type of material a sequence listing table(s) related to the sequence listing in written format in computer readable form c. time of filing/formishing contained in the international application as filed. filled together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search. In addition in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filled or filled or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished. Additional comments:	l. With re		
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No. PCT/JP2004/015557

Box No. V	Reasoned statem citations and exp	ent under R	ule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to pporting such statement	novelty, inventive sten	or industrial and in the	557
1. Statement		- Julions su	pporting such statement		or madatifal applicability	
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-12			
		Claims				_ YES
Inventive	step (IS)	Claims	1-12			– NO
		Claims				YES
Industrial a	applicability (IA)	Claims	1-12			_ NO
		Claims				YES
Citations and a	venla				<u> </u>	NO

Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP 10-25288 A (Shimadzu Corp.), 27 January 1998

Claims 1-12

The inventions set forth in claims 1-12 involve an inventive step relative to document 1, cited in the international search report.

Document 1 does not disclose ring-opening polymerization of a cyclic ester containing a proton source compound containing more than 80 ppm moisture as an initiator and molecular weight regulating agent, using the total proton concentration in the cyclic ester as an index, and incorporation of a carboxy-blocking agent into the resultant aliphatic polyester; and due to this feature, the inventions in the present application offer the advantageous effect that it is possible to control the molecular weight of the aliphatic polyester that is produced.